

Claims

[c1] What is claimed is:

An automatic outrigger securing assembly, for use on a fishing boat having structural support members, comprising:

coupling means¹⁰ for releasably securing said outrigger^{LAB} in a fixed position about said boat;

collar means⁴⁰ for interfacing with said coupling means¹⁰;

said coupling means receiving and locking said collar means;

said coupling means further including means for releasing said collar means;

whereby, when said outrigger is in a laydown or collapsed configuration, in close proximity to said boat, said securing assembly automatically receives and safely retains said outrigger in a desired position.

[c2] The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said coupling means includes a support arm and a head mounted about one end of said arm;

said head further including upper and lower complementary jaws, at least one of said jaws being moveable, and means for biasing said jaws in a closed position.

[c3] The apparatus of claim 2, wherein at least one of said jaws includes recessed channel means for retaining said collar means.

[c4] The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said collar means includes means for attachment to an outrigger, and interlocking means for insertion into said coupling means.

[c5] The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said means for attachment comprises a cylindrical sleeve, and said interlocking means comprises a pair of generally parallel flanges, said flanges protruding from said sleeve and integrally associated therewith, said interlocking means further including a pin interposed said flanges, and mounted thereto.

[c6] An automatic outrigger securing assembly, for use on a fishing boat having structural support members, comprising:
a coupler releasably securing said outrigger in a fixed position

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about said boat, said coupler including a support arm having two ends, one said end mounted on a support member of said boat, the opposite end having a head mounted thereon;

said head including upper and lower complementary jaws, at least one of said jaws being moveable, and means for biasing said jaws in a closed position;

a collar for interfacing with said coupler, said collar comprises a cylindrical sleeve for attachment to said outrigger;

an interlocking pin assembly comprising a pair of generally parallel flanges, said flanges protruding from said sleeve and integrally associated therewith;

a pin interposed said flanges, and secured thereto, said jaws receiving and locking said pin;

said head further including means for releasing said pin;

whereby, when said outrigger is in a laydown or collapsed configuration, in close proximity to said boat, said securing assembly automatically receives, releasably locks, and safely retains said outrigger until such time that release is desired.

[c7] An automatic outrigger securing assembly, for use on a fishing boat having structural support members, comprising:

coupling means for releasably securing said outrigger in a fixed position about said boat;

collar means for interfacing with said coupling means;

said coupling means receiving and locking said collar means;

said coupling means further including hydraulic means for actuating said coupling means;

whereby, when said outrigger is in a laydown or collapsed configuration, in close proximity to said boat, said securing assembly automatically receives and safely retains said outrigger in a desired position.

[c8] The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said coupling means includes a support arm and a head mounted about one end of said arm;

said head further including upper and lower complementary jaws, at least one of said jaws being moveable, and means for biasing said jaws in a closed position;

said hydraulic means being mounted about said support arm and secured thereto, said hydraulic means actuating at least one said complementary jaw.

- [c9] The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said hydraulic means includes piston means for interfacing with at least one said jaw.
- [c10] An automatic outrigger securing assembly, for use on a fishing boat having structural support members, comprising:
- a coupler releasably securing said outrigger in a fixed position about said boat, said coupler including a support arm having two ends, one said end mounted on a support member of said boat, the opposite end having a head mounted thereon;
- said coupler further including a hydraulic cylinder mounted about said support arm and secured thereto, said hydraulic cylinder including a piston;
- said head including upper and lower complementary jaws, at least one of said jaws being moveable, and means for biasing said jaws in a closed position;
- a collar for interfacing with said coupler, said collar comprises a cylindrical sleeve for attachment to said outrigger;
- an interlocking pin assembly comprising a pair of generally parallel flanges, said flanges protruding from said sleeve and integrally associated therewith;
- a pin interposed said flanges, and secured thereto, said jaws receiving and locking said pin;
- said hydraulic cylinder actuating at least one said complementary jaw for releasing said pin;
- whereby, when said outrigger is in a laydown or collapsed configuration, in close proximity to said boat, said securing assembly automatically receives, releasably locks, and safely retains said outrigger until such time that release is desired.